

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response to Non-Final Office Action is being submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed November 30, 2005. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 10-13, and 17-26 are pending in the Application (Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 10-13, and 17-25 having previously been allowed). Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al. (US 5,674,114) in view of Moulin (US 5,038,524), and further in view of Nagahara et al. (US 6,168,508).

In response to this rejection, Claim 26 has been amended to further clarify the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. This amendment is fully supported in the Specification, Drawings, and Claims of the Application and no new matter has been added. Based upon the amendment, reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Rejection of Claim 26 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) - Miller et al., Moulin, and Nagahara et al.:

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al. (US 5,674,114) in view of Moulin (US 5,038,524), and further in view of Nagahara et al. (US 6,168,508).

Independent Claim 26 has been amended to recite the novel elements/limitations of previously allowed independent Claim 21 as follows:

26. A fiber optic cable connector polishing apparatus, comprising:
a polishing fixture assembly having a plurality of segments holding a plurality of different types of fiber optic cable connectors, a portion of each different type of fiber optic cable connector extending below its corresponding segment, said polishing fixture assembly further having a hub interconnecting with each of the plurality of segments; and

a polishing pad assembly having a plurality of wedges, each wedge aligning with a corresponding fiber optic cable connector held in the polishing fixture assembly, said polishing pad assembly further having a base interconnecting with each of the plurality of wedges,

wherein at least two of said wedges have differing heights relative to each other, and

wherein at least one of said wedges is aligned at a predetermined angle relative to said corresponding fiber optic cable connector.

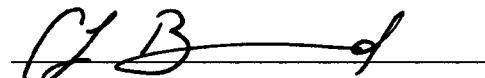
Therefore, Applicants submit that the rejection of independent Claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al. in view of Moulin, and further in view of Nagahara et al., has now been overcome and respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants would like to thank Examiner for the attention and consideration accorded the present Application. Should Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place the Application in condition for allowance, Examiner is encouraged to contact undersigned Counsel at the telephone number, facsimile number, address, or email address provided below. It is not believed that any fees for additional claims, extensions of time, or the like are required beyond those that may otherwise be indicated in the documents accompanying this paper. However, if such additional fees are required, Examiner is encouraged to notify undersigned Counsel at Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 21, 2006


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